What’s the camp schedule?

A tentative daily schedule follows:

7 a.m. – Wake-Up (optional early morning activities include fishing and polar bear swim)
8 a.m. – Breakfast
9 a.m. – Great Lakes Ecology Exploration Sessions (attend a different session each day)

• Charter Fishing & Fisheries – Get your hands wet while exploring aquatic ecosystems! First-time campers will go charter fishing and learn about the techniques and equipment needed to catch from Lake Huron. After fishing, campers will fillet their own catch while learning the importance of the Great Lakes fishery and discovering great ways to eat fish! Returning campers will use scientific tools to sample for native fish and other aquatic life and eat fish! Returning campers will use scientific tools to sample for native fish and other aquatic life and eat fish!

• Coastal Wetlands – Get your feet wet exploring our unique and ecological diverse Great Lakes coastal wetlands. Discover the plants, animals, and geology found within these coastal habitats, while experiencing the Great Lakes coastal processes such as winds, waves and currents that shape this amazing coastline.

• Crayfish & Invasive Species – Hunt for Great Lakes Invaders! Campers will explore issues surrounding invasive species and their effects on native ecosystems, learn what they can do to prevent the spread of invasive species, and help survey and document the distribution of the rusty crayfish in northern Michigan.

• Watersheds & Lakes – Gather mud from the bottom of the lake and see what is living there! Work with underwater robots. Conduct chemical experiments on the water to determine if it is safe for fish and people.

• Forestry & Wildlife – We can’t live without trees! We need trees and forests for food, shelter, healthy soil and clean air and water. Like us, wildlife has the same needs! Explore Northern Michigan forest communities and learn how they are managed for timber, wildlife, and recreation. Learn how to find and identify wildlife while exploring their habitats. You will also discover how to keep our forests healthy and productive for both humans and wildlife.

• Great Lakes Fishery – Return to the Great Lakes coastal areas to sample for native fish and other aquatic life and eat fish! Returning campers will use scientific tools to sample for native fish and other aquatic life and eat fish!

• Watersheds & Lakes – Gather mud from the bottom of the lake and see what is living there! Work with underwater robots. Conduct chemical experiments on the water to determine if it is safe for fish and people.

Noon – Lunch
12:30 p.m. – Announcements, Group Meetings, Personal Time
1:30 p.m. – Recreation Learning Options
You’ll attend five different options. For first-time campers this includes cleaning fish caught during charter fishing. Other possibilities are archery, air rifle shooting, canoeing, outdoor survival, GPS EarthCache hike, photography, sea lamprey research, quarry field trip, lighthouse tour, national marine sanctuary tour, forest fire prevention, crafts and swimming enhancement for those who can’t swim well or at all. Strong swimmers will also have the chance to go kayaking, sailing and snorkeling!

3 p.m. – Swimming & Beach Activities
5:30 p.m. – Dinner
6 p.m. – Group Game Activities
8:30 p.m. – Evening Program & Snack
9:30 p.m. – Campfire
11:15 p.m. – Curfew (in assigned cabins)

Educational perks

Your educational experiences at camp will help prepare, reinforce and enrich what you’ve already learned in school and what you’ll learn in the future. The camp sessions will expose you to four of the five Michigan Department of Education science curriculum standards in earth science and three of five standards in biology. For information about 4-H Great Lakes and Natural Resources Camp and the Michigan Science Curriculum Content Expectations and Standards, visit http://4h.msue.msu.edu/4h/why_attend.

Contact information

For more information visit the camp website at http://4h.msue.msu.edu/4h/glnrc or contact your local Michigan State University (MSU) Extension office (to find the office, visit http://msue.anr.msu.edu/county). You can also contact:

Laura Potter-Niesen, Camp Co-Director
4-H Youth Development, MSU Extension
160 Morrill Hall of Agriculture
446 West Circle Drive
East Lansing, MI 48824
Phone: 517-432-2963
Fax: 517-353-4846
Email: potterla@msu.edu

This camp is an MSU pre-college program made possible by:

- 4-H Youth Development, MSU Extension
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MSU is an affirmative-action, equal-opportunity employer.

It has made me think about different career paths in my interest areas and what I could study in college. It has also made me more ecologically aware.

– Alpaca County

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Ten reasons to attend!

1. Have fun in the great outdoors doing camp activities such as fishing, boating, swimming, hiking and campfires!
2. Learn about and enjoy Great Lakes ecology and Michigan’s diverse natural resources.
3. Explore natural resources management issues and what you can do to help.
4. Find out about careers related to the Great Lakes and natural resources.
5. Learn from Michigan State University faculty, MSU Extension program staff and others who are also natural resources experts.
6. Discover environmental education projects that you can do at home.
7. Make new friends from across the state and learn about where they are from.
8. Enjoy a chance to be independent from your family in a safe, friendly environment.
9. Learn new ideas, skills and techniques you can use for the rest of your life.
10. Develop your leadership abilities.

How much does camp cost?
The fee is $345. (Those who are not 4-H members pay an additional $10.) The fee includes meals and snacks, lodging, a T-shirt, and program and activity fees. Donors to the Michigan 4-H Foundation, Michigan Sea Grant Extension and MSU Extension generously offset about 25 percent of the real $450-a-camper cost! A limited number of state scholarships are offered for teens with financial need. Contact your county MSU Extension office to see if local scholarships may also be available.

Who should attend?
You can apply to attend if you’ll be aged 13 to 15 during camp. (Note: You may still apply if you’ll be 12 during camp but entering eighth grade in the fall.) You don’t need to be a 4-H member to attend. So each camper can have the best experience possible, you must be able to fully participate in grade-level appropriate small group science learning sessions as well as very active large group recreation. It’s an action-packed week of fun and learning! (Campers who are unable to meet these expectations will be dismissed from camp at the parent/guardians expense.)

When & where is camp?
4-H Great Lakes and Natural Resources Camp will be held August 2-8, 2015. Lodging, meals and programming will take place at Camp Chickagami, near the shore of Lake Huron between Alpena and Rogers City. The state-licensed camp has dormitory-style cabins, a dining hall, and toilet and shower facilities.

Extras for returning campers
If you’re a returning camper, you’ll be able to participate in the regular camp activities, plus these extras:

• Take a night hike.
• Try out advanced scientific techniques.
• Take on extra leadership roles.
• Be amazed as you notice things you may have missed or didn’t have time to participate in when you attended camp last time.
• Strengthen your skills and qualifications to become a camp counselor in future years.

I learned new things, met new people and tried new things that I wouldn’t have done without this camp. – Gladwin County

I learned new things, met new people and tried new things that I wouldn’t have done without this camp. – Cheboygan County

I learned new things, met new people and tried new things that I wouldn’t have done without this camp. – Kent County

How do I apply & get selected?
You can download a camp application packet from http://4h.msue.msu.edu/4h/glnrc or pick one up from your local MSU Extension office. The packet includes the Camper Application, Code of Conduct, Parent or Guardian Consent forms, and optional partial scholarship request information. Send your completed application packet, by May 1, 2015, to:

Laura Potter-Niesen, Camp Co-Director
4-H Youth Development, MSU Extension
160 Morrill Hall of Agriculture
446 West Circle Drive
East Lansing, MI 48824

Space is limited to 70 campers so early application is recommended. Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis. Visit http://4h.msue.msu.edu/4h/glnrc for more info on selection criteria.

Refunds for cancellations will be processed in the month after the cancellation is made. For example, a June cancellation refund will be processed in July.

Cancellation & refund policy
- Before June 1 – payment is fully refundable
- June 1 to June 30 – $100 not refundable
- July 1 to camp – $200 not refundable

Successful applicants will receive more forms with their acceptance letters to complete and return with full payment postmarked by May 31, 2015. Beginning June 5, wait-listed applicants will be offered spaces forfeited by campers who failed to meet the deadline.

MSU pre-college scholarship opportunity
Campsers who will enter eighth, ninth or tenth grades following their involvement are eligible for nomination to apply for a $2,000 MSU Pre-College Achievement Scholarship. Campers will be invited to apply based on criteria such as attitude, behavior and active participation. The funds will be applied toward the first year at MSU as a degree-seeking student. Visit http://4h.msue.msu.edu/4h/4h_scholarships for details.

Camp taught me that I have to be independent and get along with other people for six days. Camp has increased my confidence in presenting on my own without help. – Kent County

Camp was really fun and I want to come back next year. – Midland County

THIS CAMP’S A WINNER!
2012 Named one of eight top 4-H science programs nationally
2009 Received National 4-H and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Natural Resources Conservation Education Award
2008 Named a National 4-H Program of Distinction

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